

The Causes and Manner of Deposing a Popish King in Swedeland, Truly Described.

Gustavus Ericson King of Swedeland, having settled the Reformed Religion in Swedeland, and Reign'd Thirty Eight Years, left his Kingdom to his Son *Erick*, who, for his Cruelty and Ill Government was Depos'd, and his whole Line Exhereditated, to make way for *John* Duke of *Finland* his Younger Brother.

John had a Son call'd *Sigismund*, who being secretly Bred up in the Romish Religion by his Mother, who was of the *Sagellonian* Royal Family of *Poland*, was in his Fathers time Elected King of *Poland*.

The said King *John* had also a Younger Brother, call'd *Charles* Duke of *Sudermania Nericia*, &c. and a Younger Son of his own Name, call'd Duke of *Ostrogothia*.

King *John* Dyed in the Year 1592, in the absence of King *Sigismund* his Eldest Son: During which, *Charles* Duke of *Sudermania* his Uncle, at the desire of the States, took upon him the Government: But sent to Invite his Nephew *Sigismund*, to come and take Possession of his Native Kingdom as soon as might be: Promising in the mean time to keep all quiet, and intimating, that he hop'd his Majesty when in Possession, would Maintain all in the True Religion and Divine Worship, and Preserve the Laws of *Swedeland*.

At the end of the Year he arriv'd in *Swedeland*, having in his Company *Francesco Malespina* the Pope's Legate, who hindred him long from consenting to any Security, either for Religion or Property, but finding the Coronation would be obstructed without that; he gave way, as having yet (as the Historian says) one starting hole remaining, which was, that Faith was not to be kept towards Hereticks. In the mean time, he himself would have Crown'd the King in the Cathedral at *Upsal*, but was oppos'd by the Arch-Bishop of *Upsal*, whose Right it was, even if that Kingdom had been Popish.

The Coronation being over, which had been delay'd above a Year, during which time, several secret Attempts had been made upon *Charles* Duke of *Sudermania* to make him away. King *Sigismund* contrary to his Coronation Oath, Erected a Popish Church in the Capital City: Made a Great Man of his Religion Governour of the Castle of *Stockholme*, in which the Records of the Chancery, and the Arms and Ammunition of the Kingdom were kept, and in the Port were the best part of the Royal Navy under Command of the Castle.

A certain Jesuit call'd *Adam Steinball*, obtain'd the *Arcentian* Temple, and the Queen's Island, with the *Vastheman* Monastery, which was presently fill'd with Romish Priests.

Sigismund also by his Followers and Attendants, continually affronted the Established Religion, and was sending into *Poland*, for a Body of Forces able to subdue the Kingdom, upon which Discontents grew so high, that he hastily withdrew thither himself.

He left *Sweden* in confusion, having only for Forms sake, writ to his Uncle *Charles* to assume the Administration jointly with the Senate: But at the same time, leaving others with greater Power both in *Swedeland* and *Finland*, as appear'd when he was gone.

Charles Duke of *Sudermania*, to avoid Discord and Confusion, call'd a Convention at *Sudertopia*, which was open'd with an Oath of Allegiance to King *Sigismund*, and did likewise assert the Kingdoms Right, to have the Coronation Oath perform'd, which having been violated in the tender point of Religion, they redress'd the Grievance, and suppress'd the exercise of the Romish Religion. Banishing all Priests and Preachers of the same, and the Antient Incumbents of the *Vastheman* Monastery were Restor'd.

Then they desir'd the Duke *Charles* to accept of the Administration, for the good of the Kingdom, which he did. Then began a Treaty between *Sigismund* and the Convention, with Duke *Charles* at the head of it, which was by *Sigismund* spun out and obstructed with much Artifice, at length the Convention made several Decrees for security of Religion and Property, and entred into an Association for the Defence of them,

them, which they desired the King to confirm, and gave six weeks time to all that Dissented, to submit, on pain of being declared Enemies to the Publick Peace. F 190094

They Invited him home, to return in a peaceable Manner, and settle the other Affairs of his Native Kingdom, but instead of that, he Invaded them with an Army of Eight Thousand Horse and Foot, and a hundred Sail, to which several *Sweeds* joyn'd themselves, whom he had gained with Money. C1536

An Agreement was endeavour'd, and after much intercourse of Negotiation, both Armies being near one another, it was consented to on both sides, that twelve of the Nobility of each side, should meet and decide the whole Controversie. But by the perswasion of the Jesuits, the Royal Army in the Night, conducted by *Weyerus*, set upon the Ducal Camp; in which onset, several thousands were slain, but at last the King and all his Army had been cut off, had they not call'd out for Peace, which the Duke yet harkened to.

An Agreement followed, in which, the King demanded to be supplied with a Navy to go to *Stockholm*, promising there to call an Assembly of the States, but he no sooner had the Shipping, but he Sail'd away for *Calmar*, in which place he left a Garrison of Foreigners, and then continued his Voyage to *Dantzick*.

The King being gone, an Assembly of the States met at *Stockholme*, where they Declared King *Sigismund* fallen from the Crown and Government, and were so enclined to continue the Succession, that they offered to receive his Son Prince *Vladislaus*, provided he might be sent home, bred up a Protestant, and committed to the Guardianship of Duke *Charles*, but *Sigismund* refused it.

Afterwards another Parliament met at *Lincopia*, and there they first did expressly renounce King *Sygmund* and his Government, as also his Laws.

Then they acknowledged Duke *Charles* of *Sudermania* for their Lawful King, and after him, settled the Crown upon his Son *Gustavus Adolphus*, and his Heirs Male.

Duke *John* concurred with the Parliament, and renounc'd his pretence to the Crown, and was content to come in after the Line of Duke *Charles*.

The Daughter and Sister of *Sigismund* were also rejected.

Then followed the Coronation of King *Charles*, in the Year 1607. by the Name of *Charles* the Ninth.

These were the Proceedings in *Sweden*, whereupon I shall only make these few short Reflections.

I. That the *Sweedes* were desirous to the last Degree, to preserve the Succession according to one part of the Laws of the Kingdom, provided that might be done without overturning all the rest, they were wise enough to preserve Laws, while Laws preserved the Nation, which is the true end of all Laws, but no longer.

II. That King *Sigismund* according to the Spirit of his Religion, where ever it is grown up to Bigottry, broke thorow his Oaths, and all Rules of Justice and Morality, when they crossed the Insatiable Ambition of his Priests.

III. That tho' the *Sweedes*, when they found that they could not keep their King, his direct Heirs, their Religion and Liberties all together, resolved to part with the former, but were forced to be very cautious, and endeavour to gain time by Treaties, to unite themselves against *Sigismund*, who had *Poland* and several Allies to back him, without which Considerations, the Prudence they shewed on this Affair, may assure us, they would not have suffered the Government in so loose a Posture, so long as they did.

IV. That the *Sweedes* knowing, that it is impossible on any occasion, that all Men should be of the same Minde, wisely ordained, that the Minor part should submit to the Major, or be declared Enemies to the Publick Peace. And sure this Example will be followed, where ever Reasonable and Disinterested Men meet on the like Occasions, for sure no Body can deny, but that it is better for any Nation, that some Laws should be made and others broken, against the Opinion of the Minor part, than that all Laws, Morality, and Good Nature, should give place to passion, Injustice and Cruelty thorow their obstinancy.

Now may God Almighty open the Eyes of all *English-men* to see, and their Hearts to Embrace this Truth.